

REMARKS

1. Preliminary Amendment.

Claims 1-32, 34-35 and 42-43 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 33 and 36-41 are the only pending claims. Claim 33 is independent.

Claims 33, 36, 39, and 41 have been amended herein. Support for these amendments can be variously found in the original Specification and Drawings in general, and in particular among other places at: page 2, lines 7-11, 20-26, and 27-30; page 3, lines 2-9, and 10-28; page 5, lines 1-3; page 8, lines 18-26; page 11, lines 15-22; and Fig. 1. No new matter has been added.

The amendments herein have been made in order to focus examination of this continuation application on certain more specific beneficial features of the local renal drug delivery system of the invention featured in the original scope of the previously presented claims. These amendments have been made without waiver, estoppel, or dedication to the public of the original or previously presented claimed scope of the invention, and Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of such claims in the future, such as through additional continuation practice.

2. Conclusion.

Applicants accordingly request that the Examiner please enter these amendments into the record prior to conducting examination on the merits of the Application.

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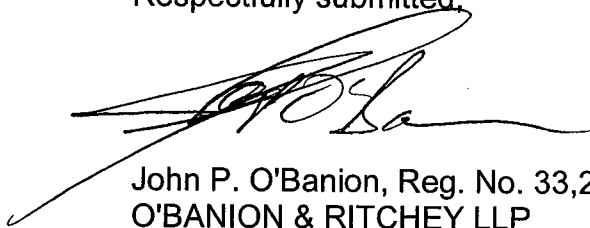
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Amdt. Dated: 04/15/2004
Off. Act. Dated: N/A

The Applicant also respectfully requests a telephone interview with the Examiner in the event that there are questions regarding this submission, or if the subsequent office action on the merits is not an allowance of all pending claims.

Date: 4/15/04

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John P. O'Banion', written over a horizontal line.

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